Filing Date: December 30, 2003

Title: THERMAL INTERMEDIATE APPARATUS, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS

Assignee: Intel Corporation

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Original) An integrated circuit package, comprising
 - a die;
 - a heat sink; and
- a thermal intermediate structure comprising a plurality of carbon nanotubes, some of which are tethered to at least one of the die and the heat sink.
- 2. (Original) The package of claim 1, wherein the surface of the at least one of the die and the heat sink has a metal coating.
- 3. (Currently Amended) An integrated circuit package, comprising The package of claim 2, a die;
- <u>a heat sink</u> wherein the surface of the at least one of the die and the heat sink has a metal coating of wherein the metal coating is gold; and
- a thermal intermediate structure comprising a plurality of carbon nanotubes, some of which are tethered to at least one of the die and the heat sink.
- 4. (Original) The package of claim 3, wherein at least one end of the some of the carbon nanotubes have organic moieties attached.
- 5. (Original) The package of claim 4, wherein the organic moieties include an amide linker chemically bonded to the end of the some carbon nanotubes of the plurality of carbon nanotubes.
- 6. (Original) The package of claim 4, wherein the organic moieties include an amide linker chemically bonded to the end of some of the plurality of carbon nanotubes and a thiol based linker to link to the surface of at least one of the die and the heat sink.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/748,565

Filing Date: December 30, 2003

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7. (Original) An integrated circuit package, comprising

a die;

a heat sink; and

a first thermal intermediate portion comprising a plurality of carbon nanotubes, some nanotubes of which have organic moieties attached to one end thereof, the one end of some nanotubes chemically bonded to the heat sink; and

a second thermal intermediate portion comprising a plurality of carbon nanotubes, some nanotubes of which have organic moieties attached to one end thereof, the one end of some nanotubes chemically bonded to the die.

- The package of claim 7, wherein the organic moieties of the first thermal intermediate portion and the organic moieties of the second thermal intermediate layer include amide linkers.
- 9. (Original) The package of claim 7, wherein the organic moieties of the first intermediate potion and the organic moieties of the second intermediate layer include thiol linkers.
- 10. (Original) The package of claim 7, wherein the organic moieties of the first intermediate portion and the organic moieties of the second intermediate portion include thiol linkers and amide linkers.
- 11. (Original) The package of claim 10, wherein the carbon nanotubes of the thermal intermediate portions are generally perpendicular to a surface of the die or the surface of the heat sink.

12. (Original) A thermal interface structure, comprising

a plurality of carbon nanotubes, some of which have organic moieties attached to one end thereof to tether the interface structure to a surface of at least one of a heat sink and an electronic circuit die.

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- 13. (Original) The thermal interface structure of claim 12, wherein the surface comprises a gold coating.
- 14. (Original) The thermal interface structure of claim 13, wherein the organic moieties comprise thiol linkers.
- 15. (Original) The thermal interface structure of claim 13, wherein the organic moieties comprise amide linkers.
- 16. (Original) The thermal interface structure of claim 13, wherein the organic moieties comprise thiol and amide linkers.
- 17. (Currently Amended) A computing system, comprising:
 - at least one dynamic random access memory device;
 - a die having a circuit thereon to couple to the memory device;
 - a heat sink; and
- a thermal intermediate structure comprising a plurality of carbon nanotubes, some of which are <u>have organic moieties attached to one end thereof to tether them</u> tethered to at least one of the die and the heat sink.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the circuit comprises a processor that acts upon data signals. , and may include, for example, a microprocessor.
- 19. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the organic moieties comprise amide linkers.
- 20. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein the organic moieties comprise thiol linkers.
- 21. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the organic moieties comprise amide linkers and thiol linkers.

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22. (Original) A process:

coating at least one surface of least one of a heat sink and of a die with a metal; treating at least one end of at least some of a plurality of carbon nanotubes by applying organic moieties thereto; and tethering one end of the at least some of the carbon nanotubes of the plurality of carbon nanotubes to the metal.

- 23. (Original) The process of claim 22 wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of gold and gold alloys.
- 24. (Original) The process of claim 23, wherein the treating the at least one end of some of the plurality of nanotubes comprises forming an amide based linkage thereon.
- 25. (Original) The process of claim 23, wherein the treating the at least one end of some of the plurality of nanotubes comprises forming an amide based linkage and a thiol based linkage thereon.

26. - 30. (Canceled)